

Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

August 17, 2001

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FEMERAL GOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETION

The Honorable Donna M. Christensen U.S. House of Representatives 1510 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515-5501

Re: Family Broadcasting, Inc., Order to Show Cause Why the Licenses for Stations WSTX(AM) and WSTX-FM, Christiansted, U.S. Virgin Islands, Should Not Be Revoked, EB Docket No. 01-39

Dear Congresswoman Christensen:

Thank you for your letter, dated August 10, 2001, concerning the above-referenced proceeding. Your letter, which was not served on the parties to this proceeding, was forwarded to the Office of General Counsel for reply in accordance with the Commission's ex parte rules, which are intended to ensure both fairness and the appearance of fairness in Commission proceedings.

The ex parte rules (47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200-12) require that written communications to Commission decision-making personnel relating to the merits of restricted proceedings be served on all the parties to the proceeding. The above-referenced matter is a restricted proceeding and it will remain restricted until it is no longer subject to administrative or judicial review.

In accordance with the ex parte rules, copies of this letter and your incoming letter have been sent to the parties to this proceeding. Additionally, as required by the rules, copies of the letters have been placed in a public file associated with, but not made part of, the record in this proceeding, and therefore will not be considered.

If you wish your letter to be considered by Commission decision-making personnel, please re-submit it in accordance with the ex parte rules by serving copies on the parties to this proceeding listed below. Also, be sure to serve them with any future communications dealing with the merits. While we regret any inconvenience this may cause, please appreciate that the ex parte rules are necessary to ensure fairness to all of the parties.

No. of Copies rec'd 2 List A B C D E The Commission is charged with fully examining the record in all of its proceedings to determine what decision will best serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity. You may be assured that the Commission will give full consideration to all views presented in accordance with the requirements of the ex parte rules described above.

We note for your information that under section 1.276(d) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.276(d), "[n]o initial decision shall become effective before 50 days after public release of the full text thereof is made" The initial decision in question in this proceeding was released on August 7, 2001. Section 1.276(a)(1), 47 C.F.R. § 1.276(a)(1) further provides that within 30 days of the release of an initial decision, any party may file exceptions to the initial decision and, if an exception is so filed, the initial decision does not become effective until the Commission completes its review thereof.

Sincerely yours,

John I. Riffer
Assistant General Counsel
Administrative Law Division

cc:
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HON. DONNA GREEN-

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House of Representatives
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MEMBER, CONGRESSIONAL CAUCUS FOR WOMEN'S ISSUES MEMBER, CONGRESSIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM CAUCUS August 10, 2001

The Honorable Michael K. Powell Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 Twelfth Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Via Fax & Mail

Dear Commissioner Powell:

I am writing to you on behalf of my constituents, Family Broadcasting, Inc., the owners of radio station WSTX- AM & FM on St. Croix, Virgin Islands. Because of its importance to the community, I respectfully request that the station to be allowed to continue to broadcast while they pursue an appeal of the decision to revoke their license.

WSTX has been broadcasting on St. Croix for as long as I can remember. It is more than a radio station, it has served and continues to serve as our main source for local news and community events. It has been a bulletin board, a clearinghouse and a good Samaritan. It has taken on the role of mediator, trouble-shooter, conciliator, benefactor, and a good neighbor. In recent years, WSTX has become the one place where the community can call to express itself on the important issues affecting the island of St. Croix and the Virgin Islands in general. The loss of WSTX will have a devastating impact on the financial stability of a majority of small businesses, who use the services of the station to advertise. It's loss will also be particularly troubling, at this time, because we are about to enter the peak of the 2001-hurricane season and WSTX serves as one of our main source of information for storm warnings.

The Hon. Michael K. Powell August 10, 2001 Page 2

Again, I appeal for your agency to stay the decision that was issued on Tuesday, August 7, 2001, and allow the station's privilege to continue pending the outcome of the owners' appeal. Let me assure you that allowing WSTX to continue to broadcast while the appeal is pursued is in the very best interest of the people and community of St. Croix and the Virgin Islands.

Thank you in advance for your favorable consideration of my request. Please feel free to contact me or my Legislative Director, Brian Modeste at 202-225-1790, if you have any questions.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely,

Donna M. Christensen Member of Congress

DCC/blm